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SAPC-4082

Copy 1 of 8

22 March 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Administration ✓
Director of Operations
Director of Materiel

SUBJECT : Planning for Contingency of Loss of a [REDACTED] 25X1A2g

REFERENCE : SAPC-4234, dated 12 March 1956, from Project Security Officer to Project Director

25X1A9a 1. The above matter was the subject of preliminary consideration by [REDACTED] and myself on 20 March. We arrived at certain preliminary and provisional conclusions which require further staff work and certain clearances outside the Project organization before they become final. The following summarizes the preliminary conclusions and indicates action required.

25X1A2g 2. In general, the pilots' equipment, preparation, and briefing should be designed to contribute in every way possible to high morale without, however, increasing the already very grave dangers inherent in the loss of a [REDACTED] behind enemy lines. To accomplish this result, the following specific preparations for this contingency should be made.

25X1A6a a. The pilots should be briefed on escape and evasion methods and possibilities and, if they so desire, arrangements should be made for E & E training either at [REDACTED] or at the Training Center at [REDACTED] for a period of four or five days just prior to their deployment overseas. 25X1A6a

b. The pilots should be given the best possible survival equipment (if they so desire) subject to restrictive limitations imposed by limited space in the aircraft. The matter of certain items of equipment will depend, of course, upon the pilot's prospective course of action in the event of an emergency. In any event, the personal equipment will be sterilized with respect to USAF markings or identification.

c. The pilot will be informed about the "L" pill and permitted to carry one if he so desires but will receive no firm instructions to use it or not to use it.

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d. The pilot will be told that he is perfectly free to tell the full truth about his mission with the exception of certain carefully specified misrepresentations as to the performance and specifications of the aircraft. He will be advised to represent himself as a civilian, to admit previous Air Force affiliation, to admit current CIA employment, and to make no attempt to deny the nature of his mission. He will be instructed, however, to understate moderately the performance of the aircraft (altitude and range) in a plausible fashion.

e. Such briefing would leave the pilot the greatest possible freedom, by responding to interrogation, to safeguard himself from extreme treatment.

3. Further required action on these matters is as follows:

a. Arrangements have already been made to send an E & E specialist to [REDACTED] for an initial discussion with the pilots. Upon his return it should be possible to arrive at a final decision as to the policy to be followed.

b. Assuming that further E & E training is required, it will be the responsibility of the Director of Administration to make the necessary arrangements.

c. It will be the responsibility of the Director of Materiel to ascertain in detail what items of survival equipment will go into the pilot's seat pack. It will furthermore be the responsibility of the Director of Materiel to ensure that all items of personal equipment are sterilized with respect to USAF identifications.

d. It will be the responsibility of the Director of Operations to develop in the form of a memorandum suitable to be shown to the pilots their instructions concerning the contingency of an emergency. These should make clear their freedom of action to attempt escape or to give themselves up, their freedom to respond to interrogation, and very specifically the misrepresentations they are asked to make concerning aircraft performance. (The matter of the use or the non-use of the "L" pill can best be handled orally.)

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4. Before a final decision is reached as to the policy herein outlined, it must be considered both by Headquarters USAF and the DDCI. Accordingly, it is requested without waiting for any further decisions to prepare the draft of instructions called for in paragraph 3(a) above. This draft will probably then be used as a basis for consideration by reviewing officers.

25X1A9a



RICHARD M. BISSELL, JR.
Project Director

RMB:gjg (21 Mar 56)

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